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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the First Committee (A/45/783)]

45/77. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolutions 2992 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3080 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, 3259 A (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3468 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/88 of 14 December 1976, 32/86 of 12 December 1977, S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 33/68 of 14 December 1978, 34/80 A and B of 11 December 1979, 35/150 of 12 December 1980, 36/90 of 9 December 1981, 37/96 of 13 December 1982, 38/185 of 20 December 1983, 39/149 of 17 December 1984, 40/153 of 16 December 1985, 41/87 of 4 December 1986, 42/43 of 30 November 1987, 43/79 of 7 December 1988, 44/120 of 15 December 1989 and other relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming that the establishment of zones of peace in various regions of the world under appropriate conditions, to be clearly defined and determined freely by the States concerned in the zone, taking into account the characteristics of the zone and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in conformity with international law, can contribute to strengthening the security of States within such zones and to international peace and security as a whole,

Recalling also the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean, 1/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45 and corrigendum (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

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Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean, during its preparatory session in July 1989, 2/ commemorated the tenth anniversary of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean, which took place on 13 July 1979,

Recalling further paragraph 22 of the final document on international security and disarmament adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, 3/

Reaffirming its conviction that concrete action for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace would be a substantial contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security, as well as to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of the States of the region,

Convinced that agreement on such action should be facilitated by encouraging developments in international relations that could have beneficial effects on the region,

Also convinced that the continued military presence of the great Powers in the Indian Ocean area, conceived in the context of their confrontation, gives urgency to the need to take practical steps for the early achievement of the objectives of the Declaration,

Considering that the creation of the zone of peace requires co-operation and agreement among the States of the region to ensure conditions of peace and security within the area, as envisaged in the Declaration,

Noting with appreciation the offer made by the Government of Sri Lanka to host the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo, in 1992,

Regretting the decision of some members to withdraw from the Ad Hoc Committee, and expressing the hope that they would reconsider their position,

1. Takes note of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean; 4/

2. Reaffirms full support for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace;

2/ A/AC.159/SR.357; see also Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/44/29), sect. II.C.

3/ See A/44/551-S/20870, annex.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/45/29).

3. Reiterates and emphasizes its decision to convene the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo, as a necessary step for the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, adopted in 1971;

4. Renews the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee as defined in the relevant resolutions, and requests the Committee to intensify its work with regard to the implementation of its mandate;

5. Notes with satisfaction that, in the implementation of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee, including the preparatory work for the convening of the Conference, as called for in the relevant resolutions recommended by the Committee and adopted by the General Assembly by consensus, significant progress has been made in the preparatory work, in particular in the preparation of the draft agenda and the draft rules of procedure of the Conference;

6. Also notes with satisfaction that the Working Group of the Ad Hoc Committee has made considerable progress in identifying substantive elements at the 1989 session of the Committee, 5/ and urges the Ad Hoc Committee to intensify its discussions on substantive issues and principles, with the aim of elaborating elements that might be taken into consideration during the subsequent preparation of a draft final document of the Conference;

7. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to hold two preparatory sessions during 1991, the first with a duration of one week and the second with a duration of two weeks, for completion of the remaining preparatory work relating to the Conference on the Indian Ocean to enable the convening of the Conference at Colombo in 1992 in consultation with the host country;

8. Requests the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee to continue his consultations on the participation in the work of the Committee by States Members of the United Nations that are not members of the Committee, with the aim of resolving this matter at the earliest possible date;

9. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a full report on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to render all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Committee, including the provision of summary records, in recognition of its preparatory functions.

66th plenary meeting
12 December 1990

5/ A/AC.159/L.93, annex.

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